



DFIRS NEWS

Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System

Volume 2, Issue 8

May 2002

Program Status

The DFIRS program surpassed the April 2002 goal with a statewide participation rate of 61%. Reaching 100% participation by December 31, 2002 is an ambitious yet obtainable goal that can only be realized by everyone working together.

With such a high participation rate the "County Countdown" has commenced. Below is each county's participation status:

Number of Departments Not Participating Per County:

- New Castle County = 15 departments
- Kent County = 4 departments
- Sussex County = 5 departments

If your department is one of the remaining 24 departments not participating in the DFIRS program please contact Program Manager, Crystal Beach for assistance. Together, we can make May's goal of 65% statewide participation a reality.

DFIRS Reports

Statewide and county specific reports are now available on the DFIRS website at:

<http://www.delawarestatefiremarshal.com/mportfac.htm>

If your department has an interest in individualized reports please contact Program Manager, Crystal Beach for assistance.

Special Study Targeting False Alarms

As stated in the April DFIRS Newsletter, the State Fire Marshal's Office and the State Fire Prevention Commission are utilizing DFIRS data to analyze and document the increasing problem of false alarms within the State.

Please remember that the accuracy of the information you report is essential to the proper analysis and possibly the final outcome of the study. The April 2002 DFIRS

newsletter contains very specific information on coding false alarms. The April newsletter can be accessed at:

<http://www.delawarestatefiremarshal.com/dfirnews.htm>

For further clarification or assistance with any coding questions contact Program Manager, Crystal Beach.

User Questions

A commonly asked question is, "**How do I record a vehicle accident (code 322) when the vehicle involved ignites after the accident?**"

Answer:

- Record the incident as incident type 131 - passenger vehicle fire. Anytime a fire occurs at a non-fire incident the fire incident type code overrides the non-fire incident type code.
- For incidents involving fire and hazardous materials or fire and EMS, use the fire codes. In general, use the lowest numbered series that applies to the incident. You will have an opportunity to describe multiple actions taken later in the incident report.
- Please note that if code 322 is used instead of the correct incident code 131, actions taken (Basic Module Section F) cannot include code 11 extinguish.

Congratulations!

The following departments are active electronic DFIRS participants:

1. Indian River Volunteer Fire Co
2. Lewes Fire Department Inc
3. Bethany Beach Fire Co
4. Little Creek Volunteer Fire Co
5. Elsmere Fire Co #1 Inc
6. Citizen's Hose Co #1 Inc
7. Volunteer Hose Co
8. Dover Robbins Hose Co #1 Inc
9. Cheswold Volunteer Fire Co

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OVER 19,500 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM FEMA to Distribute \$360 Million in Grants Beginning in Early June

WASHINGTON – The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) received a record 19,500 on-line applications from fire departments nationwide for the "Assistance to Firefighters" competitive grant program. The applications were accepted up to the April 5 deadline as part of USFA's \$360 million grant program aimed at improving operations, services and equipment for the first responder communities.

"The response to this program has been outstanding and highlights the needs of our fire service first responders across the country," FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh said. "This important program will help meet the critical needs of those men and women who put their lives on the line for their communities each and every day."

Applying to this year's fire grant program, members in the fire service excelled in using FEMA's first-time ever on-line participation process. Of the more than 19,500 applications received this year, only about 50 paper applications were submitted to USFA. In addition, the total number of applications this year was almost a thousand more than the previous year. In all, the total of all applications requested more than \$2.2 billion for basic firefighting needs.

USFA will hold a series of panels in April and May to review the applications and offer recommendations to FEMA on how to award the grants. The panels include nearly 300 fire service personnel from across the nation. Following the completion of the panel peer review process, FEMA will begin awarding grants in late May or early June and will continue through the fall.

For more information visit: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/grants/>

10. Carlisle Fire Co Inc
11. Dagsboro Fire Co
12. Frankford Volunteer Fire Co
13. Selbyville Volunteer Fire Co
14. Seaford Volunteer Fire Dept Inc
15. Roxana Volunteer Fire Co
16. Farmington Fire Co
17. Clayton Fire Co #1 Inc
18. Felton Community Fire Co
19. Wilmington Fire Dept
20. Greenwood Volunteer Fire Co
21. Camden-Wyoming Fire Co Inc
22. Magnolia Volunteer Fire Co Inc
23. Bowers Fire Co
24. Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder Co
25. Laurel Fire Dept Inc
26. Millville Volunteer Fire Co
27. Leipsic Volunteer Fire Co
28. Five Points Fire Co
29. Houston Volunteer Fire Co
30. Rehoboth Beach Vol Fire Co
31. Delmar Fire Dept Inc
32. Georgetown Fire Co Inc
33. Ellendale Volunteer Fire Co
- 34. Harrington Fire Co Inc**
- 35. Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Co**
- 36. Delaware City Fire Co**
- 37. Odessa Fire Co**

Departments in bold indicate participation since last published newsletter.

For more information regarding the Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System (DFIRS), please contact Crystal Beach at 302-739-5665 or cbeach@state.de.us
